

REMARKS

Claims 1-26 and 28 are pending in the Application. Claim 27 was previously canceled. Claims 1-26 and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Daly (USP 5748896) in view of Barkley (USP 6202066) and Lewis (USP 6421719).

Specifically, with regard to dependent Claims 5-7, which recite:

5. (Previously Presented): The method of claim 4, wherein assigning the group access level comprises:

assigning an administrator access level to permit a user to read and write physical and logical objects.

6. (Previously Presented): The method of claim 4, wherein assigning the group access level comprises:

assigning a provisioner access level to permit a user to read physical objects and read and write logical objects.

7. (Previously Presented): The method of claim 4, wherein assigning the group access level comprises:

assigning a customer access level to permit a user to read their logical objects.

Examiner indicates, in the final Office Action, that Daly teaches “assigning an administrator access level to permit a user to read and write physical and logical objects; a provisioned access level to permit a user to read physical objects and read and write logical objects; a customer access level to permit a user to read their logical objects (Fig 5b-3).” Examiner indicates, in the Advisory Action, that “Barkley discloses a method and system for creating a group access level with management capabilities wherein a level has group name with an associated list of network devices and assigning access level such as read, write corresponding to specific management capabilities; See Final action, Page 3.”

Applicants respectfully disagree with Examiner’s characterization of the teachings of Daly, and specifically Fig 5b-3. Fig 5b-3 indicates only that an individual may be designated as an administrator, a member of a group, a user, or a guest user, and is silent

with regard to the access granted by such designation with respect to reading/writing physical/logical objects. Column 13, lines 1-44 related to Fig 5b-3 state:

Access control to a network service on a given server may be administered by appropriately adding or deleting a user's or group's name from that service's administration component window. By way of example, FIG. 5B shows an access control component window 250 associated with FileService administration component window 200 for controlling access to one of the sharepoints. As the term is used herein, a "sharepoint" denotes a folder or a volume that has been designated for sharing by selected network users. Access control list window 250 is invoked when the network administrator selects a sharepoint, e.g., "After Dark 3.0" folder in this example, and indicates his or her desire to administer the access control list, e.g., by selecting Set Access Privileges Button 233.

After access control list window 250 is invoked, the network administrator may then add a user's or group's name as well as specify the type of access granted, i.e., whether the granted access has any associated limitations or restrictions. The addition of a user's or group's name may be accomplished by simply typing in the name or choosing one from the list of users and groups registered with the network server on which that service instantiation resides. Such a list is shown in user/group component 254 of FIG. 5B, which may be invoked by, for example, selecting User List button 232 in the FileService Administration window 200. In the preferred embodiment, the system administrator may add a name to access control component 250 by, as shown in FIG. 5B, simply dragging it from user/group component 254 to access control component 250. A name may be deleted by dragging it out of access control list window 250.

It should be borne in mind that although only the FileService administration component and the XYZ service administration component are illustrated in FIG. 5B, other network services and associated administration components can also be implemented analogously. ***As mentioned, such network services include, for example, PrintService and E-MailService, as well as any other kinds of services for use in a network. The specific kinds of network services and their user interface details are not critical.*** In accordance with the invention, all the network services, whether installed at the same time with the server manager component or subsequent to it to extend network services, can be recognized and supported by the improved remote server manager component when the improved remote server manager component is launched, i.e., started on the administrative console.

By Examiner's admission ("Daly and Barkley do not disclose a management method for configuring the physical and logical of network devices." Final Office Action, page 4) Barkley does not remedy this deficiency.

Likewise, Lewis does not remedy this deficiency. Lewis teaches only that a user may configure physical/logical objects at column 1, lines 25-67, column 3, line 42, to column 4, line 4, and column 5, lines 44-60, cited by Examiner. Lewis does not teach or suggest tiered read/write access to physical/logical objects.

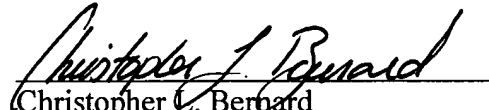
Because Daly, Barkely, and Lewis are silent with regard to the access granted by the designations provided with respect to reading/writing physical/logical objects, Applicants submit that dependent Claims 5-7 are allowable and Applicants would be willing to incorporate the associated elements/limitations into independent Claims 1 and 19 in a subsequent response should Examiner concur.

CONCLUSION

Applicants would like to thank Examiner for the attention and consideration accorded the present Application. Should Examiner determine that any further action is necessary to place the Application in condition for allowance, Examiner is encouraged to contact undersigned Counsel at the telephone number, facsimile number, address, or email address provided below. It is not believed that any fees for additional claims, extensions of time, or the like are required. However, if such additional fees are required, Examiner is encouraged to notify undersigned Counsel at Examiner's earliest convenience.

Respectfully submitted,

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